

Community Health Improvement Planning Initiative E-news

Welcome to **Compass Points**, the Florida Department of Health (DOH)'s forum for news and discussion on community health assessment and health improvement planning. We strongly encourage you to submit questions, anecdotes, lessons learned and success stories to be shared with others across the state. These quarterly e-news bulletins will include information on activities, resources, and tips for conducting community health assessments in your county.

Please share this e-news with community partners, colleagues, and anyone interested in impacting your community's health.

Best regards,

Chris Abarca and the COMPASS (Comprehensive Assessment, Strategic Success) Team

Compass Points: Summer 2007

1. [News](#) from the Field – Reports from Sarasota, Marion, Palm Beach and Indian River County Health Departments (CHDs) and the Suncoast Health Council
2. Statewide [Meet-Me Call](#) on health improvement planning and Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP), Monday, July 16 from 3-4 pm ET.
3. Meet [Laurie Osgood](#), our newest COMPASS team member
4. [COMPASS Website](#) and Web-based Tool Kit
5. [CHARTS](#) Update
6. **COMPASS [Annual Statewide Meeting](#) on Community Health Improvement Planning** – Save the Date – Sept. 6-7 in Orlando
7. Upcoming [Events, Trainings, Resources and Opportunities](#)

1. **News from the Field**

As part of Cover the Uninsured Week activities, Sarasota's [Community Health Improvement Partnerships \(CHIP\)](#) released a short film, "***Uncovered: Health and the Uninsured in Sarasota County.***" The film examines the issue of health coverage and the difficulty many people face in obtaining it. The documentary includes personal accounts from county residents as well as important statistics that provide context. **Kari Ellingstad**, of CHIP and the **Sarasota CHD**, led the creation of this documentary. Sarasota CHD hosted an **open house** to kick-off [Sarasota Healthcare Access](#), a new referral system for people who need healthcare but do not have health insurance. The CHIP Leadership Council signed a **proclamation** in recognition of the need to improve healthcare access and the Health Insurance Products Workgroup of [CHIP's CSI \(Community Solutions Initiative\): Health Initiative](#) held an **educational forum** for small business owners and employees on affordable options.

On June 26 Sarasota CHIP members gathered for a celebration luncheon to mark their many accomplishments over the past four years, plan for the future, and bid farewell to Dr. **Leslie Clarke**, CHIP project coordinator. The COMPASS team thanks Leslie for sharing her expertise and unflagging energy for partnership building and community-based planning. Best wishes for continued success, Leslie!

- The **Marion CHD** recently collaborated with the [Suwannee River Area Health Education Center](#) and the [WellFlorida Council](#) to conduct a **community health status assessment**. The resulting report depicts Marion County's demographic and socioeconomic profile, health

status and access to care resources. Findings from the assessment were reported in a four-part series in the Ocala Star-Banner and show that Marion County is experiencing rapid growth, is a low-income community, and is doing only fair to poor on most health indicators. A newly established Heart of Florida Health Center was established in collaboration with the Marion CHD to apply for a **federally qualified health center** towards making health care accessible to the underinsured and uninsured. Exemplary partnership effort!

- On May 22 in Palm Beach County, the [Governor's Council for Community Health Partnerships](#) met to honor and recognize the accomplishments of community partners in advancing their **MAPP process**. **Palm Beach CHD's** Community Health Planning and Partnerships unit has led the MAPP work and guided the formation of a community health improvement plan. Under the leadership of **Cindy Bartosek, Jeanette Hartzell and Karen Dodge**, partners are moving into the action cycle and towards implementation of interventions to impact health and quality of life. Well-deserved honors for model practice!
- Florida's [Suncoast Health Council](#), **Elizabeth Rugg**, executive director, has been invited to present their [MedNet Program](#) at an international conference to be held in Paris, France this summer. The conference, 3rd Living Knowledge Conference, is organized by the Foundation Sciences Citoyennes in collaboration with Utrecht University and research teams from Europe, the United States, Canada and South Africa. The MedNet Program **assists individuals to acquire prescription medications** from pharmaceutical companies that offer patient assistance programs. MedNet uses a unique database of instructions and applications to request medications from 90 pharmaceutical companies. The program operates from several sites in Pinellas County and has recently expanded to Polk County. Congratulations on the international recognition for this superior program!
- **Indian River CHD's** PACE EH coordinator, **Julianne Price**, and community partners were featured in the national broadcast series, **CDC Public Health Grand Rounds**. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found the perfect case study for community mobilization in Wabasso, an impoverished neighborhood in Indian River County. Along with national attention, the community has gained more than \$1 million in long-overlooked necessities such as streetlights, functioning septic tanks and potable water using the environmental health-focused, community-based planning process, [Protocol for Assessing Community Excellence in Environmental Health \(PACE-EH\)](#). Entitled "Healthy Places Leading to Healthy People: Community Engagement Improves Health for All" the satellite broadcast was aired on May 11. Kudos to Julianne and partners!
- **Your CHD's and/or community's news belongs here!** Share your news with colleagues; e-mail items to Christine_Abarca@doh.state.fl.us

2. Next Statewide Meet-Me Call, Monday, July 16 from 3-4 pm ET

Mark your calendar and plan to join your colleagues from around the state for a conversation on community health assessment, health improvement planning, and MAPP on **Monday, July 16** from **3-4 pm ET**. This is an opportunity to express your opinions, ask questions, raise concerns, and share your achievements. The toll-free call-in number is 888-808-6959, conference code 7538520. The agenda will be e-mailed to members of the COMPASS distribution list. Send agenda items and/or additions to the distribution list to Christine_Abarca@doh.state.fl.us The next meet-me call is scheduled for 3-4 pm ET on Monday, October 15.

3. Welcome Laurie Osgood to the COMPASS team

Laurie brings vast experience in community partnership building, program implementation, and action planning. She has worked for the Department of Health in several capacities including tobacco prevention coordinator, health educator, and most recently in the Bureau of Chronic

Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Laurie can be reached at Laurie_Osgood@doh.state.fl.us or by phone at 850-245-4444 ext. 2036.

4. Visit the COMPASS Website and Web-based Tool Kit

There's always something new on the **COMPASS website!** The information and resource warehouse for community health assessment practice in Florida is updated regularly. Navigate to the website at <http://www.doh.state.fl.us> using the drop-down box to select COMPASS or from the DOH intranet home page, select Health Statistics from the left menu and then look for COMPASS under Community Health.

5. What's new on CHARTS?

Have you visited CHARTS lately? New reports and enhanced features are added regularly to the public health statistics website Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (CHARTS).

[County Health Status Summary Reports](#) are available for all 67 Florida counties. This new report allows the comparison of a county's health status indicators with those of other counties and the state. Trends for individual indicators, which are tested for statistical significance, Healthy People 2010 goals and quartiles are also included.

The new [Florida Birth Query System](#) provides access to data on low birth weight infants, prenatal care status and pre-term births. Create custom reports using this system that filters data by variables such as race, age, marital status and ethnicity of the mother.

For the latest information on CHARTS features and data-related issues, [subscribe to the Florida CHARTS quarterly electronic newsletter](#). Follow the links at www.floridacharts.com today!

6. COMPASS Annual Statewide Meeting on Community Health Improvement Planning

Mark your calendar for **September 6-7, 2007** and plan to attend the meeting in **Orlando, Florida**. This year's meeting will feature plenary speakers and workshop-format breakout sessions as well as round table discussions. Watch your e-mail for more details.

7. Events, Trainings, Resources and Opportunities

- The **Florida Public Health Association (FPHA)** announces its [2007 Annual Education Conference](#) to be held **August 1-3, 2007** in Tampa. This year's theme is "Under the Big Top: Florida Public Health – The Greatest Show on Earth." The [meeting agenda](#) and information on registration and hotel accommodations are available at www.fpha.org.
- The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) 2007 Annual Assessment Initiative Conference** will be held **August 22-24** in Atlanta, Georgia. The meeting's purpose is to showcase and share information on innovative systems, methods and practices that improve the way data are used to inform public health programs, services and policy at state and local levels. Sessions will discuss data dissemination systems, applied data analysis, presentation techniques, and community health assessment processes and outcomes. Participants include staff from state and local health departments, federal agencies and community organizations involved in or interested in the collection, analysis and dissemination and application of data for community health assessment and health improvement planning. There is **no registration fee**. [Online registration](#) is available now through August 10. Make hotel reservations at the Sheraton Hotel Downtown Atlanta before July 13 to receive the discounted rate (1-800-833-8624).

The CDC Annual Assessment Initiative Conference will feature a poster session. **Abstracts for the poster session** are due by **July 27** and should be e-mailed to Nelson Adekoya at nba7@cdc.gov. Abstracts should be a maximum of 250 words. Topics of interest include approaches to assessment practice, impact and outcomes of community health assessment, systems and approaches used for data dissemination, community partnerships, and statistical methods used in assessment. Forty (40) abstracts will be accepted. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by August 6. For additional information contact Nelson Adekoya at nba7@cdc.gov or visit the [Assessment Initiative](#) website.

- Save the date! The Florida Department of Health's **Sixth Annual Quality Showcase** will be held **November 8-9**, 2007 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando. The Office of Performance Improvement sponsors this annual event.
- The Grant Training Center is offering a **Professional Grant Development Workshop** on **July 9-11**, 2007 at the Florida State University in Tallahassee. Instruction in this intensive, three-day workshop centers on mastering techniques of writing superior and winning proposals. The workshop fee of \$595 includes tuition and all materials. [Online registration](#) is required.
- The third annual [ProBike/ProWalk Florida Conference](#), "**Healthy Community Makeovers: Designs and Programs for Active and Healthy Lifestyles**" is being held **August 27-30** in Orlando. The conference is a collaborative effort of many agencies involved in bicycle and pedestrian issues. Sessions will focus on a variety of topics including land use, tourism, fitness promotion, trails management, law enforcement and education to encourage people to walk and bike responsibly. Registration information is available at www.probikeprowalkflorida.com
- [KnowledgeWorks Foundation](#) in partnership with the [American Architectural Foundation](#) seeks nominations for the **Richard Riley Award** recognizing design and educational excellence in "**schools as centers of community.**" The winning school will receive a \$10,000 prize. All public schools, are eligible to apply for the award. The deadline for nominations is **July 9** and complete application information is available at www.richardrileyaward.org
- The [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) (RWJF) invites **proposals to improve the health of immigrant and refugee communities**. RWJF's Vulnerable Populations Portfolio is accepting grant proposals for new community-based approaches to health and health care problems faced by immigrants and refugees. To be considered, proposals must address ways for improving health by linking social factors (e.g., language skills, education, poverty) to health outcomes. Applicants may be public entities or nonprofit organizations. Grants of up to \$300,000 for up to three years are available. Visit the [RWJF website](#) for program guidelines and application procedures. Deadline for application is **July 13**, 2007.
- [Share Our Strength](#) is accepting grant applications from sponsors of summer and **afterschool meal programs for children** and organizations that increase participation **through advocacy and outreach**. Grants from the [Great American Bake Sale](#) will support efforts to increase participation among low-income school-age children. To be eligible to apply, organizations must 1) sponsor USDA-reimbursed afterschool and/or summer meal programs and/or 2) work to increase participation in such programs through outreach and advocacy. Application details and forms are available [online](#). The deadline for application is **July 13**.
- The [American Dental Association Foundation](#) requests proposals to help **improve children's oral health** through its **Samuel Harris Fund for Children's Dental Health**. This fund provides grants of up to \$5,000 for children's educational and preventive programs. Examples of qualified oral health promotions include dental health education conducted at schools, health fairs, and via mobile dental clinics and outreach programs, preventive

programs such as fluoride and dental sealant programs, oral health and nutrition education and development of public service announcements to increase awareness. Visit the [ADA Foundation website](#) for more information. Application deadline is **July 17**, 2007.

- The [American Academy of Pediatrics' Community Access to Child Health Programs \(CATCH\)](#) provides grants in amounts from \$2,500 to \$12,000 for pediatricians to plan innovative, community-based initiatives that **increase children's access to medical homes or specific health services not otherwise available**. A pediatrician must lead the project and be significantly involved in proposal development and project activities. The application deadline is **July 31**, 2007. Details and forms are available [online](#).
- The [Retirement Research Foundation](#) is committed to supporting **programs that improve the quality of life for older persons**. Grant applications are now being accepted to fund service, education, research and advocacy projects. Application details are available on the foundation's website. The next application deadline is **August 1**, 2007.
- The [Peter F. Drucker Award for Nonprofit Innovation](#) is given each year in recognition of an **innovative program that has made a difference in the lives of the people it serves**. The award is accompanied by a \$35,000 prize; two runner-up cash prizes of \$7,500 and \$5,000 are also awarded. For consideration, [applications](#) must be submitted by **August 13**.
- [Bikes Belong](#) welcomes grant applications from organizations and agencies that are committed to **"putting more people on bicycles more often."** The program funds projects for advocacy and facilities. Applicants can request up to \$10,000. Due dates for the next funding cycles are **August 27** and November 26, 2007. Complete application information is available at www.bikesbelong.org
- The [Mary Kay Ash Charitable Foundation](#) annually donates funds to organizations that **aid the victims of domestic violence**. In 2006 the foundation awarded \$3 million in grants to 150 shelters. Visit the [foundation's website](#) for further information and grant application forms. This year's deadline for applications is **August 31**, 2007.
- The [Saucony Run for Good Foundation](#) encourages active and healthy lifestyles in children. The foundation is accepting grant applications from **organizations that initiate and support running and fitness programs for kids**. Complete program guidelines and application procedures are available on their website. Application deadline is **October 8**, 2007.
- The [New York New Jersey Public Health Training Center](#) offers the **interactive, online education course** with free continuing education credits, *Health Literacy and Public Health*. This free training introduces the concept of health literacy and provides strategies for considering literacy when creating public health messages and providing direct services. The two-module unit can be accessed at www.nynj-phtc.org
- [Hablamos Juntos](#) (We Speak Together in Spanish) is a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funded project to develop affordable models for language access. The report, [Developing Better Non-English Materials: Understanding the Limits of Translation](#), shares lessons learned regarding barriers faced by health care organizations in producing useful translated text and evaluating those materials for quality. The report is available [online](#).